complaints received during the last two years are given as under:

Central Railway	448	N.F. Railway	7
Eastern Railway	220	Southern Railway	90
Northern Railway	457	South Central Railway	88
North Eastern Railway	47	South Eastern Railway	220
		Western Railway	551

(c) and (d) departmental action under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules has been taken against 612 staff.

Devastations Caused by Cyclone and Heavy Rains

603. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether-wide-spread devastations were caused by cyclones and heavy torrential rains in the coastal areas of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala and other States in June this year;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of life and property and other devastations caused thereby; and

(c) the details of the assistance given by Government to the affected States for relief and rehabilitation of victims?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) According to the reports received from the State Govt., cyclones and accompanying heavy rains in June 1996 resulted in floods in varying degrees in parts of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu causing loss of 333 human lives and damage to 1.26 lakhs houses and other Private & Public Property.

(c) Government of India have released 2 installments of central share of Calamity Relief Fund for 1996-97 to all the affected States for undertaking relief measures. The funds released are as follows:

State	Funds Released
Andhra Pradesh	46.570 crores
Gujarat	52.350 crores
Karnataka	15.695 crores
Kerala	20.775 crores
Maharashtra	25.575 crores
Tamil Nadu	22.255 crores

Special Livestock Breeding Programme

604. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount granted to Uttar Pradesh for the Centrally sponsored Special Livestock Breeding Programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount sanctioned during the Seventh Plan and the amount spent during the above period for implementation of three Centrally sponsored programmes viz. the poultry, the sheep and the piggery development in U.P?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) In the 8th Five Year Plan, Rs. 32.82 lakhs were allotted to Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93. Thereafter on the recommendations of the National Development Council the programme was transferred to the State Sector.

(b) The amount granted and spent in the 7th Five Year Plan in UP under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Special Livestock Development Programme' is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Central share released	Expenditure (including State share)
1985-86	45.705	115.306
1986-87	57.020	122.720
1987-88	80.000	133.288
1988-89	89.150	133.206
1989-90	72.165	190.884
Total:	344.040	695.404

The details of amounts sanctioned and spent for the three components of poultry, sheep and piggery development under the Special Livestock Development Programme are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Sheep		Piggery		Poultry	
	Sanctd.	Spent	Sanctd.	Spent	Sanctd.	Spent
1985-86	29.134	27.706	3.550	4.479	02.676	13.497
1986-87	25.030	29.780	4.460	7.708	10.790	14.247
1987-88	25.650	27.320	4.327	4.407	11.073	19.626
1988-89	20.460	24.212	8.205	5.070	13.416	15.942
1989-90	22.960	27.413	2.100	7.782	17.840	22.080
Total :	123.234	136.431	22.642	29.446	55.794	86.392

विषय कपास की पैदावार

605. श्री रामजीलाल: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस वर्ष देश में कपास की कितनी पैदावार हुई तथा पिछले तीन वर्षों की तुलना में यह कितनी ज्यादा है;

(ख) सरकार द्वारा किसानों के हितों की रक्षा करने हेतु ऐसी कोई कार्यवाही न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं जिसमें उन्हें इस संबंध में मंदी का सामना न करना पड़ता;

(ग) क्या इसे देखते हुए सरकार कपास का निर्यात करेगी; और

(घ) तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

कृषि मंत्री (श्री चतुरानन मिश्र): (क) 1995-96 मौसम के लिए कपास के उत्पादन का अनुमान 130.3 लाख गांठे (प्रत्येक 170 कि.ग्रा. की) रखा गया है जो 1992-93, 1993-94 और 1994-95 मौसम के उत्पादन से क्रमश: 16.3 लाख गांठे, 22.9 लाख गांठे और 9.2 लाख गांठे अधिक है।

(ख) सरकार ने कपास उत्पादकों के हितों की रक्षा के लिए कई कदम उठाए हैं। इनमें कच्चे कपास के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्यों की घोषणा, मिलों तथा ओटाई और प्रैसिंग फैक्टरियों के लिए भण्डारण सीमा में छूट, चयनित ऋण नियंत्रण में छूट, और कच्चे कपास तथा सूत के लिए अधिक निर्यात कोटे का जारी किया जाना शामिल हैं।

(ग) तथा (घ) इस वर्ष सरकार ने 1995-96 मौसम के दौरान निर्यात के लिए कपास की 13.65 लाख गांठे जारी की हैं।

Demands for Rickshaw Pullers in South Central Railways

606. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made for a better deal by rickshaw pullers in South Central Railways particularly at Eluru Railway station;

(b) if so, the reaction of the South Central Railways thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for consideration of demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) A representation has been received from Eluru Railway station Rickshaw Pullers Welfare Association for providing a shelter for Rickshaw pullers at Eluru station. As a matter of policy, no such shelters are provided to Rickshaw Pullers and hence there is no proposal to provide this facility.

Flouting of UGC Guidelines

607. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down by the University Grants Commission for appointment to the posts of Professors, Readers/Associate Professors and Lecturers/Assistant Professors, and for Selection Committees to recommend such appointments;